

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 2:53 PM
To: HarborComments
Subject: Restore a clean, healthy Willamette river - please.

Dear Administrator Gina McCarthy,

The EPA's draft cleanup plan for the Portland Harbor Superfund Site is TOTALLY UNFAIR to those of us who live here.

16 years in the making - for THIS? Seriously? The EPA needs to revise its plan to clean up the Willamette Superfund site.

All my life I have watched as the EPA took more control than its original charter intended - nonsense like outdoor smoking area research in baseball stadiums, putting ever-more-crippling restrictions on gasoline vapors at the pump, and in general doing what all bureaucracies do best: preserve themselves.

To the Willamette superfund site: THIS is what you were ORIGINALLY CHARTERED FOR. THIS isn't a stretch, it's a right-down-your-alley home run opportunity and you're about to strike out. Moreover, you're about to convince a city of 800,000 that, beyond a doubt, big companies and big money wins.

Is that what I'm going to be forced to tell my son? "Why can't I swim in the water, dad?" "Because years ago,

AT A MINIMUM, here's what should happen, IMHO.

1. EPA should select Alternative G with additional dredging in areas of high human use, areas of high ecological value, and areas where there is high risk of recontamination of the river.
2. EPA should set timelines and metrics for success- including setting an explicit time goal by which Portland Harbor specific fish consumption advisories will be lifted.
3. EPA's cleanup plan should include the heavily contaminated uplands as well as the heavily contaminated river. The uplands are part of the ecosystem.
4. EPA should do a much better job of addressing WHO is responsible for the current mess and WHO should pay for it. That's only fair.
5. Address "environmental justice" issues, first by identifying WHO must pay for a thorough cleanup, then including reviewing and correcting significant deficiencies in its public engagement strategies for future phases of the Superfund process and delineating strategies for ensuring the jobs, economic benefits and other benefits associated with the Superfund process to the local community and particularly to underserved communities that have been impacted by contamination in Portland Harbor.
6. EPA should eliminate the confined disposal facility which would create a permanent toxic waste dump in our river.

Please put the community's interests ahead of the polluters and give us a restoration plan that actually fixes what is wrong, and one that will give our children and grandchildren something we have never had: a clean river.

Sincerely,

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